

## Human and Community Relationships

A quality program fosters relationships by developing them intentionally and carefully. Relationships build the positive foundation for healthy social and emotional development.

**Quality programs develop, nurture and maintain positive relationships and interactions among staff, participants, parents and community.**

- Staff respects and communicates with one another and models positive adult relationships.
- Staff interacts with families in a comfortable and welcoming manner.
- Staff communicates with families concerning the well-being of the children and youth.
- Staff partner with schools and other (local and state) agencies when appropriate to benefit children and youth based on health, social, educational and emotional needs. (Ex:health and social departments, foster care, etc.)
- Staff interacts and responds appropriately to the individual needs of the children and youth with acceptance and appreciation.
- Staff uses positive guidance techniques with children and youth.
- Staff creates an environment where children and youth feel emotionally, and physically safe and are able to receive support from a caring adult if needed.
- Staff are actively engaged with children and youth.
- Staff make children and youth feel welcome and comfortable.

**Quality programs provide opportunities for children and youth to actively participate in positive relationship development.**

- Children and youth are treated with respect and heard.
- Children and youth are encouraged to interact with each other in positive ways.

- Children and youth are encouraged to take leadership roles without staff taking control. (Ex. Knowing youth's specific interests, talents, range of abilities, culture, home, feelings and temperament)
- Children and youth are supported to take their own initiative to make informed and appropriate choices.

**Quality programs establish strong partnerships with families and communities to fully support children and youth.**

- Program utilizes school and community resources.
- Program provides families with information about community resources.
- Program provides opportunities for interactions with families and school to fully support children and youth.
- Program has policies to ensure family involvement and communication.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE THAT WE NEED TO THIS CATEGORY